

Public Notice

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances through the restoration of contaminated resources, enforcement, regulation and pollution prevention.

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT Mercury Thermostat Collection Program Manufacturers' Outreach and Pilot Project Plans

Comment Period: May 12 – June 2, 2016

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites the public and interested stakeholders to review and comment on the "Outreach Plan for the Collection of Mercury Added Thermostats in California" and "Pilot Project Plan for the Collection of Mercury Added Thermostats in California." These plans submitted on May 10, 2016 are in response to the requirements outlined in Exhibit B of the Consent Order.

The Mercury Thermostat Collection Act of 2008 requires manufacturers that own or once owned a name brand of mercury-containing thermostats sold in the state prior to 2006 (the year the sale of mercury containing thermostats was banned in California) to establish a program to collect and recycle the mercury containing thermostats. The manufacturers used the Thermostat Recycling Corporation, or TRC, to carry out their collection responsibilities. DTSC recently adopted implementing regulations establishing annual performance requirements for the collection of mercury-containing thermostats that are becoming wastes each year.

Since the effective date of the regulations, the manufacturers, through TRC, have been unsuccessful in collecting the required out-of-service mercury-added thermostats for 2013 and 2014. DTSC has issued Summaries of Violation to the manufacturers for not meeting the regulatory collection requirements in 2013 and 2014, and as a result DTSC has entered into a Consent Order with the thermostat manufacturers on February 10, 2016 to resolve these matters.

The manufacturers fulfill the requirement to submit draft outreach and pilot project plans (paragraph B-1.3.1 and B-1.4.1) targeting identified program participants pursuant to Exhibit C of the Consent Order. DTSC is seeking feedback and input on the proposed draft plans.

Relevant Documents:

- [Outreach Plan for the Collection of Mercury Added Thermostats in California](#)
- [Pilot Project Plan for the Collection of Mercury Added Thermostats in California](#)
- [DTSC Executed Consent Order](#)

HOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS: Please submit all written comments by email no later than 5:00 P.M.PST on June 2, 2016 to:

E-mail address: Thermostats@dtsc.ca.gov

DTSC will consider all comments and feedback submitted before finalizing the plans. For additional information or for questions, please refer to DTSC's website at: <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/hazardouswaste/ThermostatCompliance.cfm> , or contact Renee Avila at Renee.Avila@dtsc.ca.gov.

